(c) The position has been reviewed and it has been decided to hold these meetings once in three months.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Setting up of an electrical complex at Durgapur by Hindustan Cables

*161. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to set up a large electrical complex at Durgapur by Hindustan Cables; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of outdated technology from a Danish firm for the production of fibre optic cables

*162. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the "Financial Express" of the 20th June, 1988, to the effect that outdated and outmoded technology was being imported from a Danish firm by a Public sector unit to produce fibre optic cables in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that more advanced technology was available on cheaper rates in other advanced countries; if so, what are the reasons for importing such outdated technology; and

(c) whether Government proposed to conduct an inquiry into this deal and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The news item that Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) have proposed to import outmoded and outdated technology from a Danish firm for manufacture of fibre optic cables, is not correct. The technology chosen by HCL is the state-of-art technnology and is a commercially exploited process in use all over the world. The choice of technology is based on techno-economic evaluation of the offers by the technical experts.

(c) Does not arise.

Diversion of gas pipeline from Bombay High

*164. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra Government have requested the Central Government to divert the gas pipeline from Bombay High in order to have fertilizer projects in Marathwada and Vidarbha; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) In 1985, the Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the HBJ Pipeline be taken along the Central railway route or a branch line be constructed to supply gas to fertilizer plants in Vidarbha and other areas in Maharashtra State.

This was considered by Government and not found feasible.